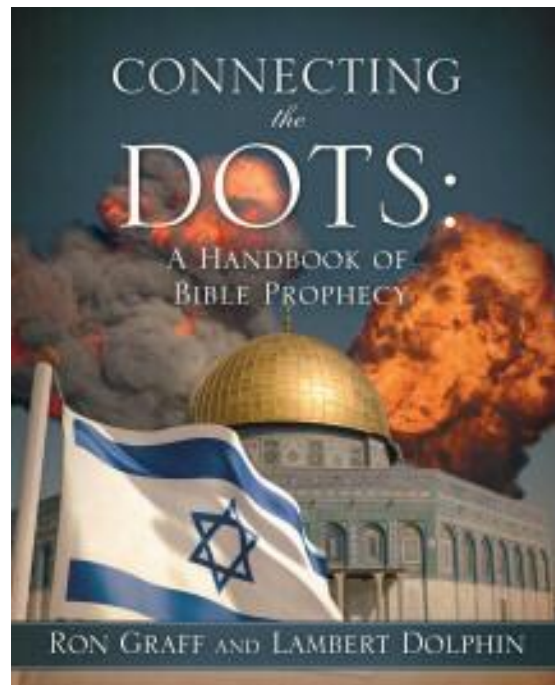


**Study Guide**  
**for**  
**Connecting the Dots:**  
**A Handbook of Bible Prophecy**



**Ron Graff and**  
**Lambert Dolphin**

November, 2011

## Introduction: How to Use This Study Guide

### Personal Enrichment

Download your free copy of this guide from <http://www.Bible-prophecy.com/connecting/guide.pdf> .

Plan to devote time to this study five days each week. This is much more effective than trying to do a whole week's worth of study at one time. Each day refers to just a few pages in your book. The starting point may not be the top of a page but one of the headings on the page. (If you are using the Kindle or other electronic book, search for that day's "starting point." It will usually be the second occurrence of the words given as a starting point since the first occurrence will usually be in the Table of Contents.)

The key to Bible study is personal application. James told his readers

*<sup>22</sup> But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. <sup>23</sup> For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man observing his natural face in a mirror; <sup>24</sup> for he observes himself, goes away, and immediately forgets what kind of man he was. <sup>25</sup> But he who looks into the perfect law of liberty and continues in it, and is not a forgetful hearer but a doer of the work, this one will be blessed in what he does.*

James 1:22-25 (NKJV)

*Visualize:* After reading the day's assignment, take a little time to make it meaningful to you. Use your imagination to picture what the information might mean to you or to others.

*Summarize:* Record a summary of your thoughts while they are fresh in your mind. Use the space provided. Jot down other thoughts you have during this time in the margins of your study guide. This will help you participate in the group discussions, and will be a valuable record of your thoughts and spiritual growth.

*Personalize:* Even if you don't have a lot of time, make these thoughts personal by writing a short prayer that you can offer to the Lord about them. Writing prayers may be a new idea to you, but this practice is helpful to capture the essence of what you have learned, and when you sincerely offer these thoughts to the Lord, you will find that they keep your daily prayers from becoming repetitious rituals.

### Group Study

Small groups have proven to be the best way for most believers to develop close relationships and stimulate one another in their spiritual growth (Hebrews 10:24-25). They usually meet every week or two in homes or small meeting rooms. They often include refreshments, a time for socializing, a half-hour or more of discussion time, and a dedicated time of prayer, including intercession for one another's requests.

Someone in your group should be appointed leader for the session. It can be the same person each week, or it could be rotated. The leader may begin the discussion time by calling the group together, and asking *some* of the discussion questions. Most groups will *not have the time to thoroughly discuss all of the suggested questions*. Of course, the leader or others in the group could also pose their own questions. Members of the group may encourage others by reading one of the summary prayers that they have written,

### **Certificate of Completion**

If you would like to have a Certificate of Completion that is suitable for framing, pick at least 5 discussion questions from each chapter and answer them in writing (preferably typed into a Word document), and email them to [studyguide@Bible-prophecy.com](mailto:studyguide@Bible-prophecy.com). Include your mailing address so we can send the certificate to you.

### **Feedback**

Send us your suggestions for future editions of the Study Guide.

Check our Facebook page for period for new information about the book and study guide.

<http://www.facebook.com/#!/ConnectingtheDotsProphecy>

Bible versions: This guide uses the New International Version (NIV) – for compatibility with the book,. We also recommend the New King James Version (NKJV) – which is growing in popularity among serious Bible students.

### **Duplication**

This Study Guide may be copied for use of individuals or groups studying *Connecting the Dots: A Handbook of Bible Prophecy*

**WEEK ONE: Chapter 1**

**An Overview of Things to Come**

DISCOVERY - Day 1

Pages 19-22

(eBook: Second occurrence of: *An Overview of Things to Come*)

Visualize: How different would Christianity be if the Bible did not include prophecy? Would we have the same level of confidence that it really is God’s Word? What effect would it have on our understanding of world conditions?

Summarize:

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Personalize: Write a short prayer that expresses your feelings about what you have just studied:

Example: Thank you, Lord, for the prophecies that have already been fulfilled to show me that the Bible is inspired by you. Help me to trust you for the future, and live for you today.

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DISCOVERY - Day 2

Pages 22-25

(eBook: Second occurrence of: *Emergence of a Final Evil World Empire*)

Visualize: How bad will the Tribulation be? Why did Jeremiah call it “The Time of Jacob’s Trouble”? How do we know that it is a seven-year period of time?

Summarize:

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Personalize: Write a short prayer that expresses your feelings about what you have just studied:

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DISCOVERY - Day 3

Pages 26-29

(eBook: First occurrence of: *We should be able*)

Visualize: Do we really have good reasons to believe that we are living in the “last generation” before the Lord’s return? What are some of these reasons? Does this mean we can set dates for the Rapture or other End-times events?

Summarize:

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Personalize: Write a short prayer that expresses your feelings about what you have just studied:

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DISCOVERY - Day 4

Pages 30-33

(eBook: Second occurrence of: *A Two-State Solution?*)

Visualize: How might the current unrest in the Middle East result in a temporary peace between Israel and the Palestinians? What might be done about sharing Jerusalem and the Temple Mount? How might the opening events of the Tribulation Period (First and Second Seals of Revelation 6:1-4) bring about a temporary peace followed by a great war?

Summarize:

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Personalize: Write a short prayer that expresses your feelings about what you have just studied:

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DISCOVERY - Day 5

Pages 33-36

(eBook: Second occurrence of: *Nostradamus and Other Psychics*)

Visualize: In what ways are the prophecies of the Bible superior to all the other attempts to predict the future? Consider astrology, fortune-telling, psychics like Nostradamus, speculation about the Mayan calendar, New-Age predictions, and Islamic prophecies.

Summarize:

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Personalize: Write a short prayer that expresses your feelings about what you have just studied:

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## DISCUSSION – Group Participation

Discuss one or more of these questions. You could also use the questions given in each day's "Visualize" exercise.

What is happening in the world today that causes people to be interested in prophecy?

Why is prophecy ignored in many churches?

How accurate are the Bible's predictions? How does this compare to other "holy books"?

Will Israel experience war or peace (or both) during the End Times?

What is happening in the Islamic world, and how does this fit into the Bible's predictions about the future? What do you think about the "The Twelfth Imam?"

The Rapture is when believers of the Age are "caught up" to be with Jesus. Can we know exactly when this great event will take place?

If time permits, discuss some of the major prophetic events that must still be fulfilled. (We will learn more about all of these in later chapters of the book.)

- The Tribulation / Time of Jacob's Trouble
- The Glorious Return of Christ at the Battle of Armageddon
- The Millennium (Thousand-year reign of Christ)
- New Heaven and New Earth

Consider the four phases (periods of time) of Jesus' own Outline of the Future (Matthew 24:9-14). Which phase best describes our present time?

Can we believe other famous prophecies, like Nostradamus' Quatrains, or Islamic prophecies?

The study of prophecy is:

- Depressing
- Encouraging
- Motivating
- All of the above
- Other – Explain:

**SHARE PRAYER REQUESTS** and spend some quality time praying with one another.





**WEEK TWO: Chapter 2**  
The Chosen People

DISCOVERY - Day 1

Pages 37-39

(eBook: Third occurrence of: *The Chosen People*)

Visualize: What good plan did God have in mind for humans when he created Adam and Eve? What went wrong with the plan, and what did he do to provide forgiveness and restore a personal love relationship with him?

Personalize: Write a short prayer that expresses your feelings about what you have just studied:

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DISCOVERY - Day 2

Pages 39-42

(eBook: Fourth occurrence of: *The Covenants*)

Visualize: How did God keep drawing his fallen creatures back to himself, not only with Adam and Eve, but with Noah, and then later with Abraham? How did the covenant with Abraham extend to “all peoples on earth”?

Summarize:

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Personalize: Write a short prayer that expresses your feelings about what you have just studied:

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DISCOVERY - Day 3

Pages 42-46

(eBook: Second occurrence of: *The Disobedience and Restoration of Israel*)

Visualize: Why was it actually good of God to require his chosen people to obey him, and to remove them from their land when they failed to do so?

Summarize:

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Personalize: Write a short prayer that expresses your feelings about what you have just studied:

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DISCOVERY - Day 4

Pages 46-48

(eBook: Second occurrence of: *Rejection of Messiah*)

Visualize: Try to picture what was in Jesus' mind when he wept over Jerusalem. What great mistake were they about to make, and what would be the result?

Summarize:

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Personalize: Write a short prayer that expresses your feelings about what you have just studied:

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DISCOVERY - Day 5

Pages 48-51

(eBook: Second occurrence of: *Hardening and Blindness*)

Visualize: Now that Israel has returned to her land, why are the majority of her people not true believers in God? Will they be persecuted again? If so, what could cause it, and how will it all turn out when Jesus the Messiah returns?

Summarize:

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Personalize: Write a short prayer that expresses your feelings about what you have just studied:

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### **DISCUSSION – Group Participation**

Discuss one or more of these questions. You could also use the questions given in each day's "Visualize" exercise.

How personal was God's relationship with Adam and Eve?

How did Adam and Eve sin. How did their sin affect their relationship with their Creator?

What did God do to provide forgiveness and restoration of fellowship with them?

What was the purpose of God's covenants? Have any of them been annulled?

In what way have "all peoples on earth" been blessed through Abraham's family?

Why has the Promised Land had the different names, "Canaan," "Israel," and "Palestine"?

What was the one "conditional" covenant? How did Israel break it, and what happened to them?

What was the result of Israel's rejection of her Messiah?

What is the present spiritual condition of most of Israel's people today? Will this change in the future?

**SHARE PRAYER REQUESTS** and spend some quality time praying with one another.

## WEEK THREE: Chapters 3 & 4

### The Church

DISCOVERY - Day 1

Pages 52-55

(eBook: Second occurrence of: *The Church: A Mystery Revealed*)

Visualize: Put yourself in the shoes of Peter, or one of the other Disciples, when Jesus first announced that he would build a Church (assembly) that would become strong enough to prevail against “the gates of Hades.” What picture would you have of this great project? How accurate would your mental picture be?

Summarize:

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Record a summary of your thoughts while they are fresh in your mind

Personalize: Write a short prayer that expresses your feelings about what you have just studied:

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DISCOVERY - Day 2

Pages 55-60

(eBook: Second occurrence of: *The Passover Supper*)

Visualize: Starting with Passover, picture how the death of the Lord Jesus began the fulfillment of the Jewish Festivals and Holy Days, including His resurrection and the beginning of the Church. Imagine how some of the other holy days may predict his return to Earth and his reign as King of Kings.

Summarize:

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Personalize: Write a short prayer that expresses your feelings about what you have just studied:

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DISCOVERY - Day 3

Pages 61-64

(eBook: Second occurrence of: *The Gospel to All Nations*)

Visualize: Knowing what the Bible teaches about Israel and the Church, how should Gentile Christians feel about Jewish people who also believe in Jesus as Messiah, and how should Messianic Jews feel about Gentile believers?

Personalize: Write a short prayer that expresses your feelings about what you have just studied:

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DISCOVERY - Day 4

Pages 65-69

(eBook: Second occurrence of: *The Gospel to All Nations*)

Visualize: What would it have been like to be a Christian during the first two periods of Church History? How would you picture yourself as part of the early Apostolic Church or the persecuted Church?

Summarize:

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Personalize: Write a short prayer that expresses your feelings about what you have just studied:

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DISCOVERY - Day 5

Pages 69-74

(eBook: Second occurrence of: *To Pergamum*)

Visualize: Could the End Times be characterized by tension between the last two types of churches? Can you picture various people you know who claim to be Christians belonging either to the Philadelphia Church (missionary) or the Laodicean Church (apostate)?

Summarize:

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Personalize: Write a short prayer that expresses your feelings about what you have just studied:

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## DISCUSSION – Group Participation

Discuss one or more of these questions. You could also use the questions given in each day's "Visualize" exercise.

When Jesus announced His plans for building the Church (Matthew 16:13-18), did he give much detail? Why do you think this was the case?

What did the Greek word "church" (*ekklesia*) mean when Jesus first revealed his plans for it? Why was this word especially appropriate?

Did the Disciples have detailed understanding of what the Church would be while Jesus was still alive?

When was greater detail about the "mystery" of the Church revealed? Why was this information called a "mystery"?

Where was Jesus when he ascended into heaven? Where will he return to earth?

What Jewish Festival was being observed at the "Last Supper"? How did Jesus institute the practice of Communion (The Lord's Supper) during this meal?

What new significance did the Festivals of Unleavened Bread and Firstfruits have for those who recognized Jesus as Messiah?

What Jewish Festival was being observed when God sent the "gift" Jesus had promised to the disciples? (Acts 2:1-6)

What future significance might the Holy Days of Rosh Hashanah, Yom Kippur, and the Feast of Tabernacles hold for believers in Jesus the Messiah?

Is it wise to set dates for future events, such as the Rapture? Why or why not?

What is the relationship between Israel and the Church? Has the Church replaced Israel? Why or why not?

How do the messages to the Seven Churches in Revelation chapters 2 and 3 depict seven periods of Church history?

Are there still examples of all seven kinds of churches in the world today?

Which (one or two) of the seven churches characterize our times the most?

Has Jesus been present with his Church during these seven periods of Church History? Is he present with us now? Explain.

**SHARE PRAYER REQUESTS** and spend some quality time praying with one another.



**WEEK FOUR: Chapter 5**  
Satan's Final Empire

DISCOVERY - Day 1

Pages 75-78

(eBook: Fourth occurrence of: *Satan's Final Empire*)

Visualize: Try to imagine some of the evils of the human world empires of Babylon, Medo-Persia, Greece and Rome. How do you think God's Millennial Kingdom be different?

Summarize:

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Personalize: Write a short prayer that expresses your feelings about what you have just studied:

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DISCOVERY - Day 2

Pages 78-81

(eBook: Second occurrence of: *Revelation's Beasts*)

Visualize: Read the explanation of the seven-headed beast in Revelation 17 and contemplate how the European Union or some other world power could become the seventh head in our generation.

Personalize: Write a short prayer that expresses your feelings about what you have just studied:

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DISCOVERY - Day 3

Pages 81-85

(eBook: Second occurrence of: *The Illuminati*)

Visualize: 2 Corinthians 11:14 says "Satan himself masquerades as an angel of light." One of the most powerful secret societies was the Masonic order called the "Illuminati." The name means "Holders of

the light,” and was derived from the name “Lucifer.” How do you picture this organization working to gain control over world governments?

Summarize:

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Personalize: Write a short prayer that expresses your feelings about what you have just studied:

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DISCOVERY - Day 4

Pages 85-90

(eBook: Second occurrence of: *The Council on Foreign Relations*)

Visualize: Think through the list of major movements and organizations since World War I. Can you see how the concept of a one-world government has grown in recent decades?

Summarize:

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Personalize: Write a short prayer that expresses your feelings about what you have just studied:

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DISCOVERY - Day 5

Pages 91-95

(eBook: Third occurrence of: *The Club of Rome*)

Visualize: What are some of the vast “world concerns” that are pushing governments, businesses, and even religions toward unity? What are the dangers of this kind of cooperation?

Summarize:

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Personalize: Write a short prayer that expresses your feelings about what you have just studied:

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### DISCUSSION – Group Participation

Discuss one or more of these questions. You could also use the questions given in each day's "Visualize" exercise. *This section involves so much information that your group may want to spend more time on it.*

Adam and Eve's son Cain built the first city. Was Cain godly or rebellious? Why do you think he built a city?

After the Flood, one of Noah's great-grandsons, Nimrod, built cities like Nineveh and Babylon. Was this a good thing? What does it tell us about human government?

What were the four great world empires that existed from the time of Nebuchadnezzar until now?

According to Nebuchadnezzar's dream and Daniel's vision, will there be another human world empire? Will it be godly or ungodly?

What event will bring about the establishment of God's Millennial Kingdom?

The last head of the seven-headed dragon in Revelation 12, 13, 17, and 18 stands for a final human empire. Could this empire be the European Union that is growing in power today? Could it be another organization of nations?

What are some of the powerful organizations that have promoted a world government in the past? Are some of them still around today?

Powerful people may have different reasons for supporting the cause of global governance. What would be some "good" reasons? What would be some "bad" reasons? Could some of these people have good intentions but be contributing to an evil purpose – an invention that will go wrong?

What effect do major problems in the world have on shaping people's willingness to accept world governance? Consider the 911 terrorist attacks, the economic collapse of 2008, and the tsunami/nuclear reactor melt-downs in Japan in 2011.

What freedoms will people be willing to give up in order to have greater safety and comfort?

How might the world-wide economic malaise make people willing to accept the “Mark of the Beast?”

**SHARE PRAYER REQUESTS** and spend some quality time praying with one another.

**WEEK FIVE: Chapter 6**  
The Rapture of the Church

DISCOVERY - Day 1

Pages 96-97

(eBook: Fifth occurrence of: *The Rapture of the Church*)

Visualize: What if The Rapture of the Church happened unexpectedly today? Would you be ready?  
What would you wish you had done before this great event took place?

Summarize:

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Personalize: Write a short prayer that expresses your feelings about what you have just studied:

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DISCOVERY - Day 2

Pages 98-100

(eBook: Second occurrence of: *Other Important Terms*)

Visualize: Read 1 Thessalonians 4:13-5:6, and explain how the Rapture could come as “a thief in the night,” and yet it should not take you by surprise.

Summarize:

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Personalize: Write a short prayer that expresses your feelings about what you have just studied:

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DISCOVERY - Day 3

Pages 100-102

(eBook: Second occurrence of: *Deliverance of the Saints*)

Visualize: Do the promises of deliverance (in Luke 21:36; 1 Thessalonians 1:10; 1Thessalonians 5:9; and 2 Peter 2:6-9; and Revelation 3:10) apply to all trials in life or to a future period of God’s wrath?

Summarize:

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Personalize: Write a short prayer that expresses your feelings about what you have just studied:

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DISCOVERY - Day 4

Pages 103-106

(eBook: Second occurrence of: *Events between*)

Visualize: After reading 1 Corinthians 3:10-15, imagine how you will feel at the Bema Seat Judgment when the only basis of rewards will be what we have done unselfishly during this lifetime to show our love for Christ. Will it make a difference in what you do from this point on?

Summarize:

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Personalize: Write a short prayer that expresses your feelings about what you have just studied:

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DISCOVERY - Day 5

Pages 106-108

(eBook: Second occurrence of: *Centrality of Israel*)

Visualize: When will the rapture occur: before, during, or after the Tribulation? What is the significance of the fact that the Church is not mentioned during the whole course of the Tribulation (Revelation chapters 4 -19)?

Summarize:

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Personalize: Write a short prayer that expresses your feelings about what you have just studied:

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### DISCUSSION – Group Participation

Discuss one or more of these questions. You could also use the questions given in each day's "Visualize" exercise.

What is the meaning of the Greek word *harpazo*? Why do we use the expression "The rapture" to describe this action?

Where will Believers "go" when the rapture takes place?

What is the significance of "the voice of the Archangel?"

Christians of all ages have expected Jesus to return at any time. Why does this make more sense if the rapture takes place before the Tribulation period begins instead of during or after the Tribulation?

What examples in the Old Testament show that when God specifically pours out his wrath he always gives opportunity for the righteous to escape it?

What are two important future events that will take place after the rapture of the Church but before Jesus returns as King of Kings?

What is the significance of the fact that the events of the Tribulation revolve around Israel and Jewish believers and the Church is not mentioned during that period of time?

Are believers of the Tribulation period "Christians"?

Discuss the chart on page 107 showing the differences between the Rapture and the Glorious Return of Christ. (In the third row, please notice a typographical error. Scratch out "19:11-16" in the left column and add "Revelation 19:11-16" in the right column.)

**SHARE PRAYER REQUESTS** and spend some quality time praying with one another.



**WEEK SIX: Chapter 7**  
Historical Developments

DISCOVERY - Day 1

Pages 109-112

(eBook: Fifth occurrence of: *Historical Developments*)

Visualize: Consider the central role that Jerusalem played in both Jewish and Christian history. What happened that caused most Jews and Christians to leave the city?

Summarize:

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Personalize: Write a short prayer that expresses your feelings about what you have just studied:

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DISCOVERY - Day 2

Pages 112-115

(eBook: Second occurrence of: *The Dome's Beauty*)

Visualize: On the Internet do a search for "Dome of the Rock" to get an idea of the beauty of this Islamic Shrine. Also search for "inscriptions Dome of the Rock" to see some of the extensive Arabic instructions written around the circumference of the dome. Imagine the impact of these instructions to Muslims and warnings to Christians and Jews to the countless pilgrims who have read them for more than a thousand years.

Summarize:

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Personalize: Write a short prayer that expresses your feelings about what you have just studied:

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DISCOVERY - Day 3

Pages 115-118

(eBook: Second occurrence of: *The Crusaders Capture*)

Visualize: Imagine the agony of Jewish people, scattered all over the world, knowing that their Holy Land and the Temple Mount were in the hands of Muslim conquerors. Isn't it amazing that they kept their faith during all those centuries of persecution?

Summarize:

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Personalize: Write a short prayer that expresses your feelings about what you have just studied:

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DISCOVERY - Day 4

Pages 119-122

(eBook: Second occurrence of: *The Holocaust*)

Visualize: Read Zechariah 12:1-3, 9, and compare that End Times prediction to the ongoing military conflict between Israel and her neighbors. How does this turmoil cause world-wide concern?

Summarize:

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Personalize: Write a short prayer that expresses your feelings about what you have just studied:

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DISCOVERY - Day 5

Pages 122-125

(eBook: Second occurrence of: *Islamic Resistance Movement*)

Visualize: Consider what is known about the beliefs and ambitions of Iran's President Ahmadinejad. Why might he be willing to use nuclear weapons against Israel when it would surely bring retaliation to his own country?

Summarize:

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Personalize: Write a short prayer that expresses your feelings about what you have just studied:

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### **DISCUSSION – Group Participation**

Discuss one or more of these questions. You could also use the questions given in each day's "Visualize" exercise.

Islam is the third major monotheistic religion that now also considers Jerusalem one of its key cities. How and when did this religion begin?

Why were there many similarities between Islam and the older religions of Judaism and Christianity?

How was Islam spread? Was it by peaceful means or by conquest?

What was the first major Islamic shrine in Jerusalem, and where was it? Is it still there today?

What are some of the messages written in Arabic inside the Dome of the Rock?

How long has the Temple Mount been in the hands of the Muslims?

What was the ultimate effect of the Crusades on the Holy Land?

What is "Zionism," and how did it bring about the return of Jews to the Holy Land?

How did the holocaust of World War II prepare the way for world acceptance of a Jewish homeland?

In your opinion, could the detailed predictions of Israel's rebirth as a nation have just been a coincidence?

Do you see God's hand in Israel's survival through numerous wars?

Are Israel's neighbors becoming more peaceful or more antagonistic? Who are some of Israel's enemies today?

**SHARE PRAYER REQUESTS** and spend some quality time praying with one another.

**WEEK SEVEN: Chapters 8 & 9**

The Tribulation

DISCOVERY - Day 1

Pages 126-130

(eBook: Second occurrence of: *The Destiny of Believers*)

Visualize: How do you suppose many people will become believers in Jesus right after he has taken “the Church” to be with him?

Summarize:

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Personalize: Write a short prayer that expresses your feelings about what you have just studied:

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DISCOVERY - Day 2

Pages 130-135

(eBook: Second occurrence of: *A Symbolic Overview*)

Visualize: After reading Revelation 12:1-17 and Ray Stedman’s explanation of these verses, close your eyes and review the broad sweep of biblical history from the Garden of Eden to the Tribulation.

Summarize:

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Personalize: Write a short prayer that expresses your feelings about what you have just studied:

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DISCOVERY - Day 3

Pages 136-139

(eBook: Sixth occurrence of: *The First Half*)

Visualize: Jesus is portrayed in Revelation 4 as a combination of the Lion out of the Tribe of Judah (Genesis 49:8) and the New Testament figure of the sacrificial lamb (John 1:29). Meditate on how the conquering Messiah of the Old Testament and the suffering Savior of the New Testament could be the same person.

Summarize:

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Personalize: Write a short prayer that expresses your feelings about what you have just studied:

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DISCOVERY - Day 4

Pages 140-144

(eBook: First occurrence of: *Cyberwar*)

Visualize: Do you think the threat of wars, famine, and economic trouble will increase in the near future or decrease? How does this fit the predictions of the Second and Third Seals?

Summarize:

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Personalize: Write a short prayer that expresses your feelings about what you have just studied:

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DISCOVERY - Day 5

Pages 144-146

(eBook: Second occurrence of: *The Fourth Seal*)

Visualize: Imagine how dangerous the environment will be on Earth after a nuclear war and world-wide famine. Have you seen any of the movies that portray such a post-apocalyptic world?

Summarize:

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Personalize: Write a short prayer that expresses your feelings about what you have just studied:

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### **DISCUSSION – Group Participation**

Discuss one or more of these questions. You could also use the questions given in each day's "Visualize" exercise.

Are believers of the Tribulation period Christians? Will the basis of their salvation be different than ours?

Will the Tribulation Saints go to the same kind of churches that we now attend? Why or why not?

What effect will the Tribulation have on Jewish people?

In the vision of the seven-headed red dragon in Revelation 12:1-17, who is represented by the dragon? Who is the child? Who is the woman?

What is the meaning of the escape of the woman into the wilderness for 1,260 days?

Who was found worthy to open the seven-sealed scroll that outlines the future of mankind?

When the first seal is opened there is a rider on a white horse. Who is that rider?

What does the color white symbolize in this vision?

The rider has a bow, but no arrows. What could this mean?

The second seal reveals a red horse, and its rider has a large sword. What might this horse and rider represent?

How serious is the problem of war in our times? How might it be even worse in the future, during the Tribulation?

Could the war of the second seal be the same as the war of Gog and Magog in Ezekiel 38 and 39). Why or why not?

Is food supply a serious problem today? Could it get worse in the near future?

How could inflation be a factor in the fulfillment of the third seal? Is inflation a threat today?

Why is the fourth seal depicted as a “pale” (actually “greenish”) horse?

What will be the name of the rider on the fourth horse? Who will be following behind him? What do you suppose these names mean?

According to Daniel 9:26-27 what will happen in the middle of a seven-year peace treaty between the false messiah and Israel?

Who are the 144,000, and what will they do?

**SHARE PRAYER REQUESTS** and spend some quality time praying with one another.



**WEEK EIGHT: Chapter 10**  
The Rebuilt Temple

DISCOVERY - Day 1

Pages 147-149

(eBook: Third occurrence of: *The Rebuilt Temple*)

Visualize: Picture the Tabernacle, and later the Temple in Jerusalem. If you have not done this before, you should take the time to read Exodus chapters 25 through 27. How were the sacred objects (Brazen Altar, Laver, Golden Lampstand, Table of Showbread, Altar of Incense, Ark of the Covenant) all pictures of the life and work of Jesus? (You may need to put his on your "To Do List" of future studies.)

Summarize:

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Personalize: Write a short prayer that expresses your feelings about what you have just studied:

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DISCOVERY - Day 2

Pages 149-151

(eBook: Second occurrence of *Solomon's Temple*)

Visualize: Considering the history of the Temple in Jerusalem and what was happening there in Jesus' time, can you imagine how he felt when he drove the merchants out? What might upset him about our churches and our practices?

Summarize:

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Personalize: Write a short prayer that expresses your feelings about what you have just studied:

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DISCOVERY - Day 3

Pages 152-153

(eBook: Second occurrence of: *Two Muslim Holy Places*)

Visualize: Can you think of a way that the Temple could be rebuilt quickly in the future in order to fulfill the prophecies of “the abomination of desolation”? What effect will that dreadful event have on the Jews?

Summarize:

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Personalize: Write a short prayer that expresses your feelings about what you have just studied:

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DISCOVERY - Day 4

Pages 154-156

(eBook: Second occurrence of: *Location of the Future Temple*)

Visualize: Why would a Jewish person have a strong desire for the Temple to be rebuilt in our generation? How would Muslims feel about this? Is there a good compromise solution?

Summarize:

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Personalize: Write a short prayer that expresses your feelings about what you have just studied:

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DISCOVERY - Day 5

Pages 157-159

(eBook: Second occurrence of: *Preparations for the Temple*)

Visualize: Imagine the excitement of a crash program to rebuild the Temple in Jerusalem in only three years! How would you feel if you were there, or even watching the dedication on television?

Summarize:

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Personalize: Write a short prayer that expresses your feelings about what you have just studied:

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### **DISCUSSION – Group Participation**

Discuss one or more of these questions. You could also use the questions given in each day's "Visualize" exercise.

Considering the number of times Jerusalem is mentioned in the Bible, how important is this unique city to God?

Why is it possible that Noah's son Shem was actually Melchizedek, the king and high priest of Jerusalem?

How is Melchizedek a "type" or preview of Christ?

If you had the time to visualize the Tabernacle (Day 1), which of the sacred objects (Brazen Altar, Laver, Golden Lampstand, Table of Showbread, Altar of Incense, Ark of the Covenant) was a reminder to you of who Jesus is?

Who built the first temple in Jerusalem? Why didn't David build it?

Solomon's Temple was built on Mt. Moriah. What biblical significance did that mountain have even before the Temple was built there?

What is the physical connection between Mt. Moriah and Golgotha? What is the spiritual connection?

What structures are on the Temple Mount today?

Why do prophecy students think there will be two more temples – one during the Tribulation, and one during the Millennium?

Of the three possible locations for the Temple to be rebuilt, which do you think is most likely?

Does the Ark of the Covenant have to be found in order for the Temple to be built?

Why does the Temple need to exist at the middle of the seven year Tribulation?

How would it be possible for the Temple to be built in a short period of time?

**SHARE PRAYER REQUESTS** and spend some quality time praying with one another.

**WEEK NINE: Chapter 11**  
The Great Tribulation

DISCOVERY - Day 1

Pages 160-162

(eBook: Beginning of Chapter 11)

Visualize: How would you feel if you were a believer during the Tribulation period and happened to be a witness of the unveiling of the image of “the Beast” in the rebuilt Temple? What would you do?

Summarize:

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Personalize: Write a short prayer that expresses your feelings about what you have just studied:

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DISCOVERY - Day 2

Pages 163-165

(eBook: First occurrence of: *Political Power*)

Visualize: Try to imagine shopping once people are required to have the “Mark of the Beast.” How would the process be similar to our present use of debit and credit cards? How would it be different?

Summarize:

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Personalize: Write a short prayer that expresses your feelings about what you have just studied:

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DISCOVERY - Day 3

Pages 166-169

(eBook: Second occurrence of: *Artificial Intelligence*)

Visualize: What amazing technological developments have you witnessed that would make it possible for a dictator to control the commerce of the whole world? Do you think even more amazing inventions may be in store?

Summarize:

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Personalize: Write a short prayer that expresses your feelings about what you have just studied:

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DISCOVERY - Day 4

Pages 170-172

(eBook: Third occurrence of: *Biometrics*)

Visualize: When people of the future are asked to receive the “Mark of the Beast” in order to be able to buy and sell things, what do you suppose they will say or do to make people willing to receive it?

Summarize:

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Personalize: Write a short prayer that expresses your feelings about what you have just studied:

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DISCOVERY - Day 5

Pages 172-175

(eBook: Second occurrence of: *The number of the Beast*)

Visualize: Why do you think people who do not really worship the Beast will accept his name or number as a symbol of allegiance to him?

Summarize:

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Personalize: Write a short prayer that expresses your feelings about what you have just studied:

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### **DISCUSSION – Group Participation**

Discuss one or more of these questions. You could also use the questions given in each day's "Visualize" exercise.

What is the difference between "The Tribulation," and "The Great Tribulation"?

What is the horrific event that marks the beginning of "The Great Tribulation"?

What covenant or treaty will be broken by this event?

Who are the two evil leaders mentioned in Revelation 13?

There is a third evil entity involved, forming an Unholy Trinity. Who would that be?

What are the three kinds of power that the Beast will use to force the world to worship him?

How would a one-world religion help the Beast reach his goals of world domination?

Read Daniel 12:4. What changes in the world of technology could be fulfillments of that prophecy?

What do you like or dislike about recent technological inventions like smart phones?

How would your fingerprint or iris scan help to protect the important data on your computer and smart phone?

How would an implanted radio frequency identification (RFID) chip keep your data safe?

If your name/number was placed in a global "no-buy" list how could that keep you from purchasing vital supplies?

How could it also keep you from traveling?

Why is it already important for every person to have a unique number to identify him or her? Would our Social Security number work for this purpose? Why or why not?

What is the significance of the Beast's name or number being placed on each person instead of one's own identification number?

**SHARE PRAYER REQUESTS** and spend some quality time praying with one another.



## WEEK TEN: Chapters 12 & 13

### Petra and Plagues

DISCOVERY - Day 1

Pages 176-179

(eBook: Second occurrence of: *The Flight of the Remnant*)

Visualize: If you were a Jewish believer in Christ as Messiah, how would you react to the desecration of the rebuilt temple in Jerusalem? Would you want to get away from there? Where would you hope to find safety?

Summarize:

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Personalize: Write a short prayer that expresses your feelings about what you have just studied:

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DISCOVERY - Day 2

Pages 179-183

(eBook: Second occurrence of: *Not to Be Conquered*)

Visualize: After reading this section in the book, try to imagine how the Lord will provide supernatural protection to those who have fled to the Bozrah/ Petra area.

Summarize:

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Personalize: Write a short prayer that expresses your feelings about what you have just studied:

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DISCOVERY - Day 3

Pages 184-187

(eBook: Second occurrence of: *Not All the Jews Flee*)

Visualize: After reading today's section, imagine that you were a person of the future who lived in Jerusalem, but failed to flee from the city when the Beast set up an image of himself to be worshipped in the Temple. What would life be like there?

Summarize:

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Personalize: Write a short prayer that expresses your feelings about what you have just studied:

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DISCOVERY - Day 4

Pages 187-192

(eBook: Second occurrence of: *Disasters of the Great Tribulation*)

Visualize: People have always looked to the skies in wonder mixed with fear. Of all the events from the heavens mentioned in today's section, which one would be the most dramatic or terrifying to you?

Summarize:

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Personalize: Write a short prayer that expresses your feelings about what you have just studied:

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DISCOVERY - Day 5

Pages 192-197

(eBook: Second occurrence of: *Smiting of the Planets*)

Visualize: Read Revelation 9:7-10. It may be impossible for us to fully visualize how dreadful these demonic stinging locusts will be, but try to imagine how you would try to keep away from these nightmarish foes.

Summarize:

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Personalize: Write a short prayer that expresses your feelings about what you have just studied:

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### **DISCUSSION – Group Participation**

Discuss one or more of these questions. You could also use the questions given in each day's "Visualize" exercise.

Read Revelation 12, and notice that the serpent (the Devil) will try to destroy a woman. Who is that woman? Why do you think so?

When the serpent "spewed water like a river," but the ground opened up to swallow the river, do you take this to mean that God will provide supernatural protection for her? Does that explain why she would be safe, even against modern military attacks?

The period of the woman's distress will be 1260 days. How many years would that be, using the biblical prophetic (lunar) year of 360 days?

The 7-year Tribulation Period is the same as Daniel's 70<sup>th</sup> week (Daniel 9:27). Why would the second half be called "The Great Tribulation" (also: the "Time of Jacob's trouble")?

What is "the abomination that causes desolation" ? (Matthew 24:15-22)

Is Petra mentioned in the Bible?

What is the name of the city where the Lord promises to protect his people during their distress? How far is it from Petra?

According to Daniel 11:41, the Beast will not be able to destroy Edom, Moab and Ammon (parts of Modern Jordan). Can you think of any natural means of protecting this area from a world dictator? Do you think it will be supernatural, like some of the stories of God's protection of his people in the Old Testament?

Other believers during this period will be martyrs. What is a martyr? Why do you think God allows believers to suffer and be killed?

What is it about the description of the Two Witnesses in Revelation 11 that make Bible students think they will do their work during the second half of the Tribulation (the Great Tribulation)?

Why do you think some teachers believe the ministry of the Two Witnesses is during the first half of the Tribulation instead?

Can we know who the Two Witnesses will be? What is your best guess, and why?

How dangerous are objects and events from the heavens? Name some of them.

When would natural events like comets and asteroids be considered supernatural judgments?

How could belief in UFOs play a part in End Times events?

The Fifth and Sixth Seals are also called the First and Second Woes. Are they worse than the previous events?

SHARE PRAYER REQUESTS and spend some quality time praying with one another.

**WEEK ELEVEN: Chapters 14 & 15**  
Armageddon and Christ's Return

DISCOVERY - Day 1

Pages 198-203

(eBook: First occurrence of: *The awful culmination*)

Visualize: From the excavations on top of the ancient city of Megiddo, looking Southeast toward Jerusalem, you would see the great "breadbasket of Israel." Can you imagine what that area, hundreds of square miles of flat land, would be like with representative armies from all over the world camped there?

Summarize:

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Personalize: Write a short prayer that expresses your feelings about what you have just studied:

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DISCOVERY - Day 2

Pages 203-209

(eBook: Second occurrence of: *The Seven Vials of God's Wrath*)

Visualize: The Seven Vials of God's Wrath are apparently poured out during the staging and the battle of Armageddon. In your mind's eye, how might these events add to the drama and the urgency of this campaign?

Summarize:

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Personalize: Write a short prayer that expresses your feelings about what you have just studied:

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DISCOVERY - Day 3

Pages 209-215

(eBook: Second occurrence of: *Signs in the Sun*)

Visualize: How terrifying would it be for the Sun and Moon to be dark and have asteroids smashing into the Earth all at the same time! Imagine how people will feel in the midst of that disastrous time when they see Jesus returning in glory.

Summarize:

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Personalize: Write a short prayer that expresses your feelings about what you have just studied:

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DISCOVERY - Day 4

Pages 215-219

(eBook: Second occurrence of: *Harvest of Wheat*)

Visualize: Read Matthew 25:31-46. After the Battle of Armageddon Jesus will judge all the people still living on the earth, based on how they treated his people. Evil-doers will be eliminated, but those who were good to the needy will be allowed to enter the Millennial Kingdom (Thousand-year reign of Christ). Can you imagine yourself if you were one of those people. Think what Jesus might say to you?

Summarize:

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Personalize: Write a short prayer that expresses your feelings about what you have just studied:

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DISCOVERY - Day 5

Pages 219-225

(eBook: Second occurrence of: *God's Dialogs*)

Visualize: When Christ returns in glory to reign as King of Kings, how do you think those who trust him will feel? How will his enemies feel?

Summarize:

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Personalize: Write a short prayer that expresses your feelings about what you have just studied:

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### DISCUSSION – Group Participation

Discuss one or more of these questions. You could also use the questions given in each day's "Visualize" exercise.

What does "Armageddon" mean?

How far from Jerusalem is this site? What sense does it make for it to be so far away from the focal point of the battle (Jerusalem)?

Are the armies that will be gathered at Armageddon all allies of the Beast? Explain.

Are all the nations of the earth represented in this battle?

Who will fight against the combined armies of the world? Who will win?

Who was Antiochus Epiphanes, and why was he a type (or symbol) of the final evil world ruler?

Will Armageddon be a single battle or a military campaign with several stages?

There are six places in The Revelation that refer to the great conflict of Armageddon (Revelation 6:12-17; 9:13-21 and 11:13; 14:14-20; 16:12-21; 17:14; 19:11-21). These all seem to be endpoints to various aspects of the Tribulation. How does that affect the way you understand the sequence of the book? (Why does it mean that the book is not strictly chronological in its layout?)

Will Armageddon be a war of:

- 1-nations against nations
- 2-all nations against Jesus, or
- 3- both?

What signs will accompany the return of Jesus when he comes as King of Kings and Lord of Lords? (Note: No signs are given for the Rapture of the Church.)

Is the parable of the Wheat and the Tares a picture of the Rapture or of Christ's Glorious Return?

Who are the white-robed people who return with Jesus in Revelation 19:14?

Is the Parable of the Wheat and Tares (Matthew 13:24-30) a picture of the Rapture of the Church? Why or why not?

What will happen to the Beast and the False Prophet when Jesus returns in glory?

What will happen to Satan at that time?

SHARE PRAYER REQUESTS and spend some quality time praying with one another.



**WEEK TWELVE: Chapter 16**  
The Millennium and Beyond

DISCOVERY - Day 1

Pages 226-228

(eBook: Second occurrence of: *The Millennium and Beyond*)

Visualize: Read Revelation 20:1-9. The Millennium is a thousand-year period of Christ's reign before the creation of a New Heaven and New Earth. It will be populated by mortals who believe in Christ and resurrected believers from all past ages. Imagine how it will feel to be a part of such a wonderful period of time.

Summarize:

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Personalize: Write a short prayer that expresses your feelings about what you have just studied:

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DISCOVERY - Day 2

Pages 229-232

(eBook: Second occurrence of: *National Repentance*)

Visualize: In this section we see that the Earth will be released from the curse of sin, so that it will be like the Garden of Eden. Even the animals will be at peace with one another, and a child will be able to play with them. Allow your mind to dwell on such a wonderful environment.

Summarize:

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Personalize: Write a short prayer that expresses your feelings about what you have just studied:

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DISCOVERY - Day 3

Pages 233-234

(eBook: Third occurrence of: *Health*)

Visualize: During the Millennium there will be no disease and no crime. People will not die of old age. How do you suppose some people might die (those who see Jesus' righteous reign but still do not believe in him)?

Summarize:

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Personalize: Write a short prayer that expresses your feelings about what you have just studied:

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DISCOVERY - Day 4

Pages 235-237

(eBook: Second occurrence of: *The Other Resurrection*)

Visualize: The worst thing you can ever imagine is the reality of hell. But there is something good that can come from thinking about it. What would that good thing be?

Summarize:

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Personalize: Write a short prayer that expresses your feelings about what you have just studied:

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DISCOVERY - Day 5

Pages 237-239

(eBook: Second occurrence of: *The Heavenly Jerusalem*)

Visualize: Try to picture the Heavenly Jerusalem. It would be 1500 miles square. And it would have hundreds or even thousands of layers, because it would be 1500 miles high! Write some of your thoughts and questions about such a glorious place. Later you may want to discuss it with others.

Summarize:

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Personalize: Write a short prayer that expresses your feelings about what you have just studied:

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### **DISCUSSION – Group Participation**

Discuss one or more of these questions. You could also use the questions given in each day's "Visualize" exercise.

Does the Kingdom of God already exist? If so, why do we pray for it to come to Earth?

What will be the capital of the world during the Millennium?

Will there be other kingdoms and nations? If so, how will their kings relate to Jesus Christ, the King of Kings?

In what way will the thousand-year reign of Christ be like living in the Garden of Eden?

What incredible changes to the Earth's geography will be caused by the great earthquake?

The martyrs of the Tribulation Period will be raised from the dead at the beginning of the Millennium. What role will they play in the new Kingdom?

There are several "phases" of the "First Resurrection." Only believers participate in this resurrection. Can you describe the phases?

Is there a judgment for believers? Explain.

Will Jesus be king during the Millennium, or will David be king. Explain.

How will the sacrifices offered in the new Temple during the Millennium be different from the ones that used to be offered before the death of Christ?

What kind of person will follow Satan at the end of the Millennium? What will happen to them?

Do you think that the Bible teaches that hell is that it is a real place of eternal punishment?

Why do you think God will create a New Heaven and a New Earth? Will the New Earth be our home?

How big will the Heavenly Jerusalem be? Why is that too big for the present Earth?

SHARE PRAYER REQUESTS and spend some quality time praying with one another.